

DRAFT MINUTES

City of Flagstaff PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE



Thursday, September 10, 2015 | 4:30 pm

City Hall, Council Conference Room
211 West Aspen Avenue, Flagstaff, Arizona

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 pm. On roll call, the following Committee members were present:

Kim Austin, co-chair
Georgia Duncan, vice-chair
Adam Langford
Cecile LeBlanc
Jim Tuck

Members absent:

Heather Williams, co-chair
Joyce Browning

The following City and agency staff were present:

Sara Dechter, comprehensive planning manager
Martin Ince, multimodal planner
Jennifer Mikelson, associate planner
Dylan Monke, intern
David Wessel, FMPO manager

Others present:

Jesse Dominguez, La Plaza Vieja Neighborhood Association
Laura Myers, La Plaza Vieja Neighborhood Association
Kevin Parkes
Michele Ralston
Jack Welch

I. PRELIMINARY GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Announcements

The Committee expressed their appreciation to Ms. Duncan for her years of service on the Pedestrian Advisory Committee.

Mr. Langford announced that he has taken a job with the City of Sedona, and will likely resign from the Committee this month or next.

2. Public Comment

Mr. Welch said the new FUTS signs were very well received with the public.

Mr. Parkes introduced himself as the chair of the Transportation Commission.

3. Approval of Minutes

Ms. Duncan made, and Mr. Langford seconded, a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of August 13, 2015. The motion was approved unanimously (5-0).

II. OLD BUSINESS

1. Flagstaff Walks!

A few items were brought up:

- The City's Sustainability Program is hosting a Parking Day event on September 18.
- Mr. Ince said he had prepared a draft walking map, but it would be for smart phones only and not available as a paper map until funding for printing is found
- Mr. Langford will conduct the geocaching event on October 3
- Mr. Ince assembled a list of other walks in September and October

A Mayoral proclamation expressing appreciation for crossing guards would be presented to each crossing guard. The proclamations could be delivered to school principals in advance.

2. Pedestrian and bicycle master plan

This item was not discussed

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. La Plaza Vieja Neighborhood Plan

Ms. Mikelson made a presentation to the Committee regarding the draft La Plaza Vieja Neighborhood Plan. She said that the plan will be reviewed by the Planning and Zoning Commission on September 23, and by the Transportation Commission on September 30. Their goal is to have the Council review the plan on October 13 and 20.

She said that they were looking for a recommendation from the PAC to take back to the Transportation Commission.

She summarized goals and implementation strategies from the plan relative to pedestrian issues, and outlined the three scenarios for a future roadway network in the neighborhood.

There were several questions from the Committee:

- What percentage of sidewalks are missing
- How much cut-through traffic is there in the neighborhood
- What would be the impact of a FUTS connection through the neighborhood on cut-through traffic
- How much land is needed for future right-of-way for the extension of McCracken
- Will any residences be removed in any of the scenarios
- Will the Malpais portion of the new minor collector have the same cross section. or are we creating new gaps in the sidewalk network
- How do you convert Clay Avenue from a minor collector to a local street. Bike lanes would be removed, pedestrian facilities could be enhanced, and additional traffic calming installed.

Ms. Mikelson summarized the recommendations from the BAC and the Transportation Commission.

Mr. Dominguez introduced himself as the president of La Plaza Vieja Neighborhood Association. He said that the local street scenario illustrated in Map 14 is the neighborhood's preferred option. The neighborhood welcomes bicyclists and pedestrians, and already has a lot of walking and biking.

Mr. Ince summarized options for the FUTS trail in each of the three street network scenarios.

Ms. Austin said she would like to see the FUTS trail aligned through the neighborhood. It is a way for all of the residents of western neighborhoods to get downtown. She also favors less traffic in the neighborhood.

Mr. Langford said the neighborhood's statement made clear which elements of the plan they do not find acceptable. The neighborhood does not want to be responsible for solving traffic problems on Milton and Route 66.

There was a short discussion about options for transit through and adjacent to the neighborhood.

Mr. Dominguez said that the neighborhood is proud of its walkability and bikeability. Lots of students in the neighborhood walk or bike to school or to campus. The neighborhood does not want to be the relief valve for ADOT traffic.

Ms. LeBlanc made, and Ms. Duncan seconded, a motion to recommend approval of the La Plaza Vieja Neighborhood Plan to the Transportation Commission, subject to the following conditions:

1. Map 14 should be moved from the appendix to the main body of the plan
2. Preference should be given to the Neighborhood Association's preferred scenario for future streets
3. Implementation of the FUTS through the neighborhood as shown on the Regional Plan is encouraged
4. Implementation strategy 10.2 should be reworded to remove the sentence that allows a sidewalk in place of a standard FUTS connection if the right-of-way that can be acquired is limited.

The motion was approved by a vote of 4-0, with 1 abstention.

IV. CONCLUDING GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Reports

There were no Reports.

2. Announcements

Mr. Ince reported that the Committee will have two vacancies, but there are also several potential applicants.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:04 pm.